



**SANTA MONICA BAY
RESTORATION COMMISSION**
MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE OF THE NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

- DRAFT -

**SANTA MONICA BAY RESTORATION COMMISSION
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

DRAFT PENDING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPROVAL

Date: Thursday, November 18, 2021

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Meeting Location: Remote Meeting Only

Charlie Caspary chaired the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission's (Commission) Executive Committee meeting and called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. Commission staff provided an overview of the meeting protocols. Introductions followed.

1) Comments from Members of the Public on Items not on the Agenda and Public Testimony on All Agenda Items

Commission staff read written comments from Walter Lamb, who could not be in attendance, which included Ballona Wetlands Land Trust's planned appeal of the Public Records Act request litigation, the National Estuary Program (NEP) funding guidance, and the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve.

2) Informational Items

a) Order of Agenda

There was no change to the order of the agenda. The order of the agenda was approved without objection.

b) Reports from the Chief Administrative Director and Santa Monica Bay NEP Director

Marissa Caringella reported on collaboration with The Bay Foundation to complete the Santa Monica Bay NEP Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 annual report, develop the draft FY2023 Work Plan, and the Baywire Newsletter. Caringella also reported on Commission staff's work activities, including ranking the Proposition 50 grant proposals, preparing for the proposed Governing Board election, updating the Commission's website, managing Proposition 84 grants, and responding to Public Records Act requests.

**Draft Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2021**

DRAFT PENDING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPROVAL

Tom Ford reported on discussions with NEPs on promoting environmental justice and diversity, equity, and inclusion, and coordination with western NEPs. Ford reported on his (and Marissa Caringella's) attendance of LA Sanitation & Environment's Hyperion 2035 technical advisory group meeting. Ford also reported on Santa Monica Bay NEP activities carried out by The Bay Foundation, including cooperation with the US Navy to monitor species of concern and coordination with Beacon to analyze visitor-ship at points of interest along the Santa Monica Bay coast. Ford announced NEP funding from the recently passed national infrastructure bill, The Bay Foundation's public board meeting scheduled for December 8, 2021, and annual audit.

Member Comments

Caspary and other members commented on funding from the national infrastructure bill and potential changes to the overall NEP budget.

i) Update on the Informational Items List and Projected Agenda Items Calendar

Caitlin Gray presented an overview of the Informational Items List and Projected Agenda Items Calendar.

Member Comments

Members commented on formatting of the Informational Items List and prioritizing topics to schedule as informational items, including state and local perspectives on water reuse, recycling, and advanced wastewater treatment goals; an update on the July 11, 2021 Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant Sewage Discharge; sediment management and impacts of wildfires on sediment flows; and kelp forest restoration updates. Members identified potential presenters and also commented on updates on potential funding for water recycling projects, brine disposal from reverse osmosis processes, quantification of minimum in-stream flows, and desalination policy implementation.

c) Consideration of Approval of September 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes were approved without changes by roll-call vote. Moved: E.J. Caldwell. Seconded: Martha Tremblay.

d) Consideration of Approval of 2022 Executive Committee Meeting Dates

Marissa Caringella reported on the proposed 2022 Executive Committee meeting dates and that the Government Code section 11133 allowance of remote public meetings ends January 31, 2022.

**Draft Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2021**

DRAFT PENDING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPROVAL

Member Votes

The 2022 Executive Committee meeting dates were approved without changes by roll-call vote. Moved: Jonathan Bishop. Seconded: Kelly Clark.

e) Establish the Governing Board Agenda for the December 14, 2021 Governing Board Meeting. Consider the following agenda items:

i) Election of Governing Board Representatives

Marissa Caringella provided an overview of the proposed nomination and election procedures for the seven elected Governing Board entities.

ii) Consideration of Approval of the 2022 Governing Board Meeting Dates

Marissa Caringella reported on the proposed 2022 Governing Board meeting dates.

Member Comments

Members commented on potential for hybrid meetings, public meeting requirements, and venue availability, including securing a venue for the February Governing Board meeting. At Caspary's request, Eric Gillman briefly discussed public meeting requirements under the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act.

iii) Consideration of Approval of the Proposition 50 Grant Program Recommended Project List and Ranked Standby List

Caitlin Gray presented an overview of the Commission's Proposition 50 grant program, review and evaluation of proposals, and the preliminary Recommended Project List and Standby List.

Member Comments

Members commented on staff recommendations for partial funding of projects and future funding opportunities for the Commission, including discussing potential funding at a future Executive Committee meeting.

iv) Informational Item regarding Updates from the NEP Annual Report

Caitlin Gray reported that this item is a recurring presentation to summarize accomplishments from the FY21 Santa Monica Bay NEP annual report.

**Draft Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2021**

DRAFT PENDING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPROVAL

Member Votes

The agenda for the December 14, 2021 Governing Board meeting was approved by roll-call vote with the following agenda items: Election of Governing Board Representatives; Consideration of Approval of the 2022 Governing Board Meeting Dates; Consideration of Approval of the Proposition 50 Grant Program Recommended Project List and Standby List; and an Informational Item regarding Updates from the NEP Annual Report. Moved: Timothy Lippman. Seconded: Martha Tremblay and Jonathan Bishop.

f) Closed Session

No closed session was held.

3) Member Comment

At Jonathon Bishop's request, Eric Gillman reported that the Los Angeles Superior Court issued a final order in September to deny the claims regarding the Public Records Act brought by the Ballona Wetlands Land Trust.

The meeting adjourned at 2:24 p.m.

Attendance:

Voting Members/Alternates of the Governing Board

Jonathon Bishop, State Water Resources Control Board
E.J. Caldwell, At-Large Representative (West Basin Municipal Water District)
Charlie Caspary, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Kelly Clark, Environmental/Public Interest (Los Angeles Waterkeeper)
Timothy Lippman, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (3rd District)
Martha Tremblay, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Claire Waggoner, State Water Resources Control Board

Non-Voting Members/Alternates of the Governing Board

Tom Ford, Santa Monica Bay NEP Director
Erica Yelensky, US EPA Region 9

Commission and State Water Resources Control Board Staff

Marissa Caringella, Commission
Eric Gillman, State Water Resources Control Board
Caitlin Gray, Commission

Public Attendees

Constance Pawell, State Water Resources Control Board